The preſent money to diſcharge the Iew,
He would not take it: neuer did I know
A creature that did beare the ſhape of man,
So keene and greedy to confound a man.
He plies the Duke at morning and at night,
And doth impeach the freedome of the ſtate
If they deny him iuſtice. Twenty Merchants,
The Duke himſelfe, and the Magnificoes
Of greateſt port haue all perſwaded with him,
But none can driue him from the enuious plea
Of forfeyture, of iuſtice, and his bond.

Ieſſica. When I was with him, I haue heard him ſweare
To *Tuball* and to *Chus*, his Country-men,
That he would rather haue *Anthonios* fleſh,
Then twenty times the value of the ſumme
That he did owe him: and I know my Lord,
If law, authority, and power deny not,
It will go hard with poore *Anthonio*.

Por. Is it your deare friend that is thus in trouble?

Baſſ. The deereſt friend to me, the kindeſt man,
The beſt condition'd and vnwearied ſpirit
In doing courteſies: and one in whom
The ancient Romane honour more appeares,
Then any that drawes breath in *Italy*.

Por. What ſumme owes he the Iew?

Baſſ. For me three thouſand Ducats.

Por. What no more, pay him ſix thouſand & deface the bond,
Double ſixe thouſand, and then treble that,
Before a friend of this deſcription
Shall loſe a haire through *Baſſanios* fault.
Firſt go with me to Church, and call me wife,
And then away to *Venice* to your friend;
For neuer ſhall you lye by *Portias* ſide
With an vnquiet ſoule. You ſhall haue gold
To pay the petty debt twenty times ouer.
When it is paid, bring your true friend along;

My